

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on January 24, 1972 with Chairman, William Press, presiding.

After a quorum was declared present, copies of the September, 1971 meeting were circulated and on motion were approved.

Correspondence was received from Clarice Heckert stating that she had prepared and exception to Title 15, Section 5004, Delaware Code, for introduction at the January session of the Legislature.

A letter was received from Ernest Davidson, Director of Highways stating studies of the traffic situation at Harvey and Orleans Roads found that the warrents were not met at this location; therefore, our request for a light at this corner was denied at this time.

A letter from Mr. William Conner stated that our request for additional credit against the County taxes because Arden is performing functions for itself is being studied.

Mr. Philip Cohen presented the Financial report for the Trustees, which was approved. A copy is on file.

Mr. Cohen reported that there is a little known statute in the Delaware Code that any forest land in excess of five acres is entitled to a special assessment as forest land. This should result in a good tax savings for Arden, and the statute will be checked. The proposed change in the New Castle County tax will not be made until July 1, 1973. Mr. Cohen feels that the Assessors should invite the Trustees to the open meetings.

Mr. Michael Curtis reported that the Board of Assessors had an organizational meeting at which time all the members were sworn in. Michael Curtis was elected Chairman and June Kleban elected Secretary.

No report from the Auditing Committee or the Budget Committee.

Mr. Reese Davis reported for the Civic Committee that the committee had three meetings and field investigations concerning problems. Numerous leaseholders are encroaching on Village road right-of-way with rocks and other obstructions on the sides of the roads. The Civic Committee is trying to handle this on an individual basis. They have been investigating violations of County Housing Code. Most leaseholders have cooperated, but others will be referred to the County Housing Inspector. Ordinance No. 6 - "Excavations in Village Roads has been prepared by the committee and will introduced under New Business. Michael Curtis requested that he not be considered a nominee for the Civic Committee. The committee wishes to thank Mike for his services to this committee.

The report on motion was accepted.

Community Planning Committee report by Frank Akutowicz for the committee.

No position taken yet on a Harvey Road strategy suitable for Arden.

No position taken yet on residents who habitually park on the street rather than on leasehold area. Except for greens, parking is permitted on side of road if two wheels are off the road.

The new owner of the old mill was approached with idea of having his place put on the National Register of Historical Places and he is interested.

The Brandywine Council has picked up our recommendations for conservation measures on the upper part of Naaman's Creek. The bridge over Naaman's creek is to be widened and the channel deepened.



Virginia Shaw has agreed to prepare the application for Arden to be placed on the National Register of Historical Places.

The Committee is ready to sponsor an informative guide book for residents of Arden and they have started to work on an official map of Arden.

Mosquito spraying has been done by the State, and Arden has been sprayed several times without requesting it.

Committee suggests that individual leaseholders should take responsibility of putting up lights to light areas of the roads.

Committee requests that Civic Committee engage a stone cutter to carve date 1900 on the stage of Frank Stephens Memorial Theatre under supervision of Edith Ware.

A post and rail fence will be erected by the Civic Committee around the Sewer Pump House area and the Merry-go-rounders will plant shrubs in the area.

Arden needs a good housekeeping to clean up rubbish, etc.

Dogs are still running at large in violation of the State game laws.

People should not park on the edge of the roads while they are wet or thawing.

George Kershaw is still filling in the area back of the old swimming pool on the Ardentown side. He is not in violation of any state code. Ardentown does not object to it, but the Community Planning Committee is going to write to the Ardentown Civic Committee to ask them to look into this matter.

The committee is trying to get an estimate of the cost of carving the stone in the theatre.

Franklin Institute has a new type of paving material that might be worth while investigating.

The report on motion was accepted.

Carolyn Liberman reported for the Registration Committee. There were 415 voters on the books for the referendum and 290 voted (69.8%), but the committee had a hard time persuading residents to vote. All items of the Budget were approved. The Board of Assessors are: Michael Curtis, Morris Rosin, Shaul Gladstone, Carl Vondreele, Harold Monfort, Bernard Brachman and June Kleban. As of January 24, 1972 there were 426 registered voters.

Advisory Committee report will be covered by the various committees.

Safety Committee report by Richard Lynch: Shaul Gladstone maintaining liason with the State Police. There is a special coverage of police at time the children get home from school. Posts were not available for street signs, but some have been procured and the signs will be erected. The robberies we have had lately are drug related and are being done by a small number of people who are mostly local residents. Several of the burglaries have been solved, but the courts release the guilty members.

Vandalism problem is very great and hard to solve.

There is no mugging at the present time as reported and it is safe to walk around Arden at night.



The Safety Committee has heard about a program used in California that seems to have decreased the number of burglaries. Personal properties like stereos, televisions, radios, etc. are marked with Social Security numbers and a notice put on door indicating this and it makes the items harder for the thief to sell. The Cosmos Gild feels that the police have been over-zealous, but the Safety Committee feel that there is an improvement the relationship of the police and young people.

Arden Resources Committee meeting was postponed, but one is being held within next week or so. A report will be made at the March meeting.

Brandywine Council of Civic Organizations are studying the county reassessment program, zoning changes. Proposed widening of Grubb Road was discussed. Harvey Road is not to be widened at present time because special State legislation prevents appropriation of land without the permission of Arden.

Temma Tanzer reported for the Special Committee to Study Harvey Road. There are no plans to widen the road in the foreseeable future. The Safety Committee has not acted upon the specific hazards outlined by the committee. They are willing to help the Safety Committee carry out these recommendations.

This committee was asked by the Town Assembly to bring in specific plans for the physical improvement of Harvey Road, but they felt they needed an addition to the committee of more qualified people. With these additions, the committee feel they will be able to draw up suggested improvements and present them at the June Town Assembly.

Mr. Press said that he would check whether the town could legally spend money to have William West's hedge moved back to provide more visibility down Harvey Road at Orleans Road intersection.

He appointed Woodrow Vandever and Herman Kumme who were willing to serve with this committee.

Old Business: Carolyn Liberman reported that Clarice Heckert had submitted our proposed amendment to Title XV, Section 5004 of the Delaware Code to exempt from its provision any towns conducting elections by Proportional Representation and/or having fewer than 750 voter. It was submitted to the Judiciary Committee as House Bill 572. She may need to change the form of the bill to insure enactment, and she feels someone should be on hand when the bill is to acted upon to explain the need of the amendment.

Under new business the Advisory Committee submitted the following slate for nomination: Auditing Committee: William Beacham, William Bindloss, Vera Brodman, Lis Downes, George Hanstein, Carl VonDreele. Budget Committee: Frank Heymann, Sandra Kerwalla, John Page, Margaret Saye. Civic Committee: William Bindloss, Alton Dahl, Ted Davis, Woodrow Vandever. Community Planning Committee: Alton Dahl, Aaron Hamburger, Herman Kumme, Edith Ware. Registration Committee: Beatrice Jaffe, Mary Kumme, Carolyn Liberman, Irene O'Conner, Ruth Roberts, Mary Ann Van Neerden. Safety Committee: Barnes King, Richard Lynch, Charlotte Shedd. Michael Dougherty and Temma Tanzer were nominated from the floor. Advisory Committee Chairman: Aaron Hamburger, Hugh Roberts. Chairman of Town Assembly: William Press, Secretary of Town Assembly: Mary Morley, Treasurer of Town Assembly, Rae Gerstine.

Reese Davis introduced Ordinance 6 - Excavation in Village Roads. The purpose is To provide for an acceptable level (this on motion was amended to read standard) of road restoration in cases requiring excavations through or into the roads of the Village. The Ordinance shall apply equally to public agencies, public utilities, private contractors, leaseholder and/or residents.



Section 2. Road Excavation Permit. All excavations in Village roads, regardless of the nature, require the prior issuance of a Road Excavation Permit, obtainable from the Village Treasurer with payment of \$5.00 fee.

Section 3. Road Restoration Details. The details of road restoration, as approved by the Civic Committee, shall be stated on the Road Excavation Permit together with the necessary notification for inspection of work.

Section 4. Emergency Excavation. The only exception to the required prior issuance of the Road Excavation Permit is in the case of an emergency, in which case the Permit must be obtained prior to refilling and resurfacing, but in no event more than 72 hours after the emergency excavation.

Section 5. Violation. It shall be unlawful to permit or cause road excavation in this Village of Arden without adherence to the provisions of Sections 1 through 4 of this Ordinance. Violations of this Ordinance shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$100. In lieu of the fine the offending party shall be liable to the reopening of the excavation for proper inspection and then resurfacing in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

It was suggested that perhaps violations should be a fine plus the cost of correction.

Reese Davis also outlined the Road Restoration Details.

A motion was made and accepted to approve the first reading of Ordinance 6 with the amendment of the word level changed to standard in Section 1.

It was suggested that all proposed ordinances be proposed at an Advisory Committee meeting first in order to have that committee study it before the Town Assembly.

Aaron Hamburger reported on a special committee that met to study some of the problems and possible solutions of the Arden greens. Some of the outcomes are listed:

1. Facts are that congregating of young people does not seem to be in any connection with the greens and burglaries. These crimes seem to be by local residents and friends and are drug related.
2. There is a real fear in the town especially by our older residents that they are in danger if they walk around the village.
3. Physical condition of the green is getting bad despite the help of the Cosmos Gild who attempt to police the area. There is no regular garbage collection.
4. Not many residents use the greens and we should encourage more use of these facilities.
5. ACRA should schedule more activities on the greens.
6. Appropriate areas of the greens should be lighted.
7. Richard Lynch offered to speak with the Gardeners Gils to attempt to allay their fears.

Aaron <sup>Hamburger</sup> ~~Hoffman~~ submitted the following motion: That the Civic Committee is directed to develop a plan for installing lighting in selective areas of the Arden Green. The plan should consider lighting recreational areas of the Green as well as appropriate other sections. The plan should include an estimate of the cost of installation and annual operating expenses. This plan should be ready for presentation to the Town Assembly for consideration at the March, 1972 meeting.

In the discussion that followed some felt that lights would destroy the beauty of the area. Others felt that lights might eliminate crime. Some residents did not feel it was necessary to have intensive activity on the greens. Many felt that flood lights would be undesirable. Others supported the motion because it would aid the police to see what was going on in the green areas, and a moderate amount of light would not be undesirable.



Voting was called on the motion and it was accepted with two votes against it.

Frank Akutowicz noted that Arden was sprayed several times last summer from the air for mosquitoes. At times there was an unusual heavy dose of oil. The spray is not too effective against mosquitoes, but it does kill a wide spectrum of insects and drives the birds away for a time. It was felt that the more important issue is do we want to be sprayed without approval of request of the town. In order to decide whether we want to continue the spraying for mosquitoes, we should look further into the matter and determine the chemicals used.

In order to produce the Arden Hand Book it will be necessary to have money set aside for it in the Budget.

A motion was made and passed that the Town Assembly request that the Budget Committee allocate \$500.00 for the book in the 1973-1974 budget. Any proceeds from the sale of the books would go back into the town treasury.

The Town Assembly expresses its sympathy to the family of Earl Broadbent and the family of Ethel Payne at their deaths.

The meeting on motion adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Morley*  
Mary Morley  
Secretary